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Lee  
10/29/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln. Serial No.: 09/693,408  
Filing Date: 10/19/2000  
Applicants: Alan C. Atwood

Group Art Unit: 3724  
Examiner: Goodman  
Attorney Docket No.: 34828.006

Title: Cutting Table and Clamp for Use Therewith

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 CFR §1.111**

BOX: NON-FEE AMENDMENT  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

RECEIVED  
OCT 23 2002

TECHNOLOGY CENTER

Responsive to the Office Action dated July 16, 2002, applicant requests favorable reconsideration in view of the following amendments and accompanying remarks.

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

At page 6, please delete the paragraph spanning lines 13-26 and insert in its place the following paragraph:

a' --To further aid in aligning the blind 20, the apparatus 10 also includes alignment assembly 32, which includes header insert 38. After the blind 20 is placed in clamp 40, but before the upper jaw 50 is rotated toward the lower jaw 60, the alignment assembly 32 is moved toward the side of the blind 20 that is away from the cutter 30. The header 22 of the blind 20 can be inserted into the header insert 32. By holding the alignment assembly 32 against the side of the blind 20, the blind is aligned with the apparatus 10 and movement of the blind 20 is reduced or eliminated. Another benefit of the alignment assembly 32 is that when the alignment assembly 32 is pushed against the blind 20 (or vice versa) to align the edge of the blind 20, the blind 20 is cut straight. Once the blind 20 is aligned, the upper jaw 50 is rotated downwardly toward the lower jaw 60, and secured by latches 70, 71. Once the blind